

tural notes on specific collections of plants." The first of the series, "A Guide to the Desert Plant Collection," was published in 1937; and this is the second.

A brief introduction gives the history of the Huntington Gardens and of the palm collection in particular, as well as a few general remarks on cultivation of palms. The feather palms, fan palms, and cycads are then considered species by species. Usually there are a few phrases of description, some information about origin and introduction, and notes on uses and cultivation in southern California. Nomenclature mostly follows L. H. Bailey. Synonymy is treated in a manner that will impress the uninitiated with the esoteric nature of taxonomy. The text as a whole might have been improved by more careful editing.

Among the feather palms about forty species are listed as hardy or semi-hardy, though some of these were lost at the Huntington Gardens by freezing, and seven more species are listed as less than hardy. About forty fan palms and thirty-five cycads are included, though again some have not survived.

The illustrations are good. These are photographs taken through the years by Mr. Hertrich, mostly of plants at the Huntington Gardens. They should help the user to recognize the species grown in southern California. REID MORAN, Bailey Hortoreum, Ithaca, N.Y.

NOTES AND NEWS

We call to your attention the following recent publications.

The Cultivated Aroids, by M. R. Birdsey. The Gillick Press, Berkeley, California. 140 pp., illustrated. 1951. \$5.00

Vegetation of the Sonoran Desert, by Forrest Shreve. Carnegie Institution of Washington Publication 591, Washington, D.C. 192 pp., illustrated. 1951. Paper, \$3.25; cloth \$3.75.

Flowering Trees of the Caribbean, by Bernard and Harriet Pertchik. Rinehart & Company, Inc., New York. 125 pp., illustrated. 1951. \$10.00

Weeds of California, by W. W. Robbins, Margaret K. Bellue, and Walter S. Ball. Printing Division (Documents Section) State of California, Dept. of Agriculture, Sacramento. 547 pp., illustrated. 1951. \$5.00

Flora of the Charleston Mountains, Clark County, Nevada, by Ira W. Clokey. University of California Press, Berkeley. 1951. Paper, \$2.75; cloth, \$3.75.